

of the Union which front upon our great lakes, each claiming water frontage and fisheries.

The resolution approving a close season during the month of November for whitefish, salmon-trout and herring was adopted unanimously by the various state commissioners at this conference.

A strong opinion was expressed that the licensing system of Canada should be adopted in the various state fisheries.

Other resolutions of an important character, tending to preserve the fisheries, were agreed to, all of which will be found in the condensed report of the proceedings.

No sentiment expressed at the conference appeared to meet with a more unanimous approval than, "That the fisheries were held by the States and Canada *in trust for the people* to see that they and their descendants had for all time to come a supply of fish; that the country is not to be deprived of this fish food, from improvident action at the present time."

These states will ask for legislation to confirm the recommendations of the conference. In Canada an order in council is effective. The adoption of the "recommendations" in Canada would be the best evidence of approval of the work of the conference.

It was recognized that Canada had been in the advance in endeavouring to preserve the fisheries of the great lakes.

In difficult cases, no argument is more effective than examples, the impression is more quick and penetrating than that of words; the possibility and advantages of performance are made clear. The example of Canada in the past, in adopting close seasons and wise regulations, has not been without good effect in the United States. The future of the fisheries of the great lakes will always be largely influenced by the adoption of any well considered regulations by the Canadian Government.

## 2.—FISH IN UNIVERSAL DEMAND.

Before commenting upon the evidence the importance to the people of maintaining the fisheries cannot be better expressed than in the words of the eminent physician, Sir Henry Thompson. His lecture, given during the "International Fisheries Exhibition, London, 1883," will be found in the fisheries exhibition literature "Conference."

"For a large and increasing class of the community who are emphatically brain workers fish furnishes an appropriate food. When we reflect that the tendency of civilization here and elsewhere is slowly but surely to develop mental activity and to dispense with laborious handicraft requiring a strong meat diet, this fish food which has hitherto for the most part been an agreeable appendage to the daily table of a few, ought, I think, to be more generally recognized as peculiarly adapted to the wants of a very large, influential and increasing part of our population.

"For the sedentary man, whatever his calling may be in life, whose engagements permit him only to take just what moderate amount of muscular exercise which is in all circumstances essential to health; for a great proportion of women whose habits mostly are not and often cannot be active, the nutritive elements afforded by fish admirably supply an important part of the wants of the body. The moderate